THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) All IL-76 aircraft are fly-worthy. However, some aircraft remain on maintenance/ overhaul as per schedule and requirement. Maintenance and safety of the aircraft including procurement of spares is a continuous process which is carried out in consultation with the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) in order to ensure optimum serviceability level of the aircraft.

Encroachments of defence land in Hyderabad

2304. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of illegal encroachments and occupation of cantonment lands have been coming up in Hyderabad-Secunderabad areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to initiate, to remove the illegal occupants from the said sensitive areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) There are around 900 cases of encroachments/illegal occupations measuring an area of around 59 acres in Secunderabad cantonment. Various cases against encroachments are in progress at various courts of law. Necessary action has been initiated against encroachers for eviction from the defence land under the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Increase in cases by Defence personnels in courts

†2305. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of stubborn and autocratic attitude of army officers thousands of cases filed by serving personnel and ex-army men are pending in High Courts and the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details of the pending cases;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government are considering any scheme to provide special training to army officers to effectively deal with said problem, especially the cases related to pension anomalies of ex-servicemen;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) There are about 8000 cases relating to various service and disciplinary matters pending before various High Courts and the Supreme Court. These cases are pending for various reasons. The defence forces take all appropriate steps so that the disposal of cases is expedited. Elaborate instructions have also been issued by the services in this regard. The officers in the Judge Advocate Goveral branch in the defence forces have appropriate skills and training to attend to such matters. This is an ongoing process. Monitoring of court cases is also done regularly.

Spread of AIDS in Indian Army by ISI

2306. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per an intelligence report, ISI is planning to spread AIDS virus among the Indian Army and Paramilitary forces;

(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) how the Ministry is preparing itself to face this challenge, especially personnel guarding Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) No such report has been received by the Government.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Demilitarisation of Siachen

2307. SHRI JANARADHANA POOJARY:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: